

May 30, 2023

Attendees: Adrienne, Mark, Mary, Bill, Louis, Jeff

A thank you to Mark in helping get the notes in order.

Significance: The outreach projects we select and implement creates visibility that can get people more interested in all sustainable goals and being part of the solution either as a green team member or in their own life. This can help our community in a quest for sustainability. Please review and participate in identifying potential outreach projects

1. Rain garden status/update.
 - a. Notes/update from Mark: Rain garden update – Most of the plants survived the winter. The garden was supplemented with additional plantings (7 total) purchased from the Monmouth County Master Gardeners plant sale earlier this month. Also, the plants in the planter box at the Farmers Market were replanted in the rain garden (6 plants). Additional plants are anticipated to be planted. Also, installation of an additional rain barrel is being planned.
 - b. Other R-G discussion items covered:
 - i. Adrienne to follow up with Morganville Garden for pricing of native plants on our list.
 - ii. Bill showed some Monmouth County events going on with gardening and related actions.
2. Update for the energy audit that Adrienne is coordinating internally within the township government.
 - a. Not much has been done. Adrienne has been working on the farmers' market, which is a significant undertaking, which opens this Sunday, June 4. It will be open until October.
 - b. Adrienne still has to get in touch with the outside company that coordinates electric bills from JCP&L. She has the NJNG bills.
 - c. Tori from Sustainable Jersey has been in touch with Adrienne.
3. Recruitment of new green team members, suggested by Adrienne.
 - a. Mark has worked on a draft to encapsule the MGT – see Mark's suggested vision statement, mission statement, and rain garden volunteer recruitment below. Any input from MGT members is welcome. We can discuss at the next MGT meeting.
 - i. *Vision: To make Marlboro a sustainable community.*
 - ii. *Mission: Identify, support, and complete sustainable, feasible projects and initiatives for the Marlboro community. Activities include identifying and seeking financial support for selected projects, engaging the Marlboro community and leaders, developing project plans, and working through the plan to accomplish the various projects and initiatives.*
 - iii. *Rain Garden recruitment: If you are interested in helping to maintain and further develop the Rec Rain Garden, we invite you to join the Marlboro Township Green Team. You are not obligated to attend meetings or to be involved in other projects. However, to coordinate activities, we do ask that you join. In addition to the Rain Garden, you may find other Green team*

projects and initiatives that you find interesting, or you may suggest sustainable projects that would benefit the community. Please contact the Green Team Chairman, Jeff Davis at xxx-xxx-xxxx, or the Township liaison Adrienne Spota at xxx-xxx-xxxx if you are interested.

- b. Jeff suggested we may need more potential projects identified that interest/entice township citizenry.
 - c. Other thoughts about recruitment of new MGT members:
 - i. As a result of the planned energy audit, to expand the MGT, could trigger projects that may emanate from the audit. However, these may involve projects that township personnel will need to orchestrate.
 - ii. Adrienne suggested we look at “outreach” projects that would not involve significant township expenditures, for example: EV education acquisition outreach.
 - 1. Charging station construction at one’s home education and outreach,
 - 2. Solar panel installation at home’s home education and outreach.
 - 3. Signing onto Community Solar, using S-J’s Project Finder software.
 - iii. Adrienne’s suggestion: look at the Sustainable Jersey potential projects list at their website. If we have people, can pull action tasks from the S-J website. There are dozens of items. Here is the link to S-J specific webpage.
 - 1. Actions - Sustainable Jersey
 - iv. The MGT members should look over the suggested projects at the S-J website and be ready to discuss at the next MGT meeting at the end of June, 6/27. The projects that we would seek would involve low expenditures, e.g. low hanging fruit
 - v. After volunteers identify potential tasks, we would ask the entire green team who would like to be part of each project’s sub-team to see if we have the resources to take on the additional volunteer work.
 - vi. Next step: have everyone on the MGT examine the list and meet to discuss at our regular June meeting, 6/27.
 - vii. Bill suggested to have a presentation on some green topic for the Marlboro public. This can be discussed as we progress. As Adrienne noted, such a presentation would be a project unto itself.
 - d. Do Marlboro’s solar panel requirements/ordinance fall in line with recommendations by S-J? This needs to be reviewed. Responsibility is to be determined.
4. MGT active members vs. less active. Should we reach out to the less active members to determine how they would like to be involved going forward?
- a. Adrienne has mentioned the teen council in the past. Would we also be looking at school-aged citizens?
 - i. Resultant questions about including HS students, would they have the time; how would they be utilized on projected future projects; etc.?
 - ii. We do not have to act on this concept at this point. However, if soliciting new members and a MHS student volunteers, we would certainly accept him/her into the MGT.
 - b. Discuss the timing of MGT expansion: we would not want to bring new folks on board without tasks to accomplish. To be determined/discussed further per the above.

Next meeting: June 27 at 7 PM.